# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

In re MiMedx Group, Inc. Securities Litigation

Civil Action No 1:13-cv-03074-TWT

THIRD CONSOLIDATED
AMENDED CLASS ACTION
COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Lead Plaintiff Tim Kelly and Named Plaintiffs and proposed Class Representatives Alexina Brandford and Mark Canterna (collectively, "Plaintiffs"), individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, allege in the Amended Complaint (the "Complaint") the following based upon personal knowledge as to Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs' own acts, and upon information and belief as to all other matters based on the investigation conducted by and through Plaintiffs' attorneys, which included, among other things: (a) review of Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings by MiMedx Group, Inc. ("MiMedx" or the "Company"), (b) review and analysis of defendants' public documents, conference calls and press releases; (c) review and analysis of securities analysts' reports and advisories concerning the Company; (d) information readily obtainable

on the Internet; (e) interviews of several witnesses with personal knowledge of the facts; and (f) consultation with an advisor on medical, scientific and regulatory issues concerning MiMedx's products and applicable Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") regulations.

Plaintiffs further believe that substantial evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery. Most of the facts supporting the allegations contained herein are known only to defendants or are exclusively within their control.

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. This is a federal securities class action on behalf of all purchasers of MiMedx common stock between March 29, 2012 and September 4, 2013, inclusive (the "Class Period"). Plaintiffs seek to pursue remedies against MiMedx and certain of its most senior executives under §§10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. The "Individual Defendants" include MiMedx Chairman, CEO and President, Parker "Pete" H. Petit ("Petit"), MiMedx CFO Michael J. Senken ("Senken"), and MiMedx COO William C. Taylor ("Taylor").
  - 2. MiMedx is a small pharmaceutical company that manufactures and

distributes a number of products using amniotic tissue, which products MiMedx claims treat chronic wounds. The Company gets the amniotic tissue from placenta donations from women who have given birth via c-section and choose to donate their placentas to MiMedx. The Company then collects amniotic tissue from the placentas for use in its products. The amniotic tissue from the placentas is ground up into injectable products, which MiMedx manufactures and sells to distributors. As of 2012, placenta-based products accounted for 95% of MiMedx's revenue.

- 3. MiMedx has been able to generate significant revenues from these products by manufacturing and distributing them without FDA approval. MiMedx did so by falsely claiming that these products were not subject to FDA scrutiny because they were "minimally manipulated" (i.e. did not undergo much processing) and therefore were subject to Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act ("Section 361"), which provides that products made from tissues can be sold without premarket FDA scrutiny so long as they comply with four criteria, one of which is referred to as "minimal manipulation" (discussed further below).
- 4. A product that does not satisfy Section 361 is automatically considered a biologic or a drug which requires intense premarket scrutiny and can involve over a decade of expensive research. After MiMedx acquired a company

that manufactured products made from amniotic tissue and MiMedx began selling these products without premarket FDA scrutiny and its attendant costs, MiMedx's stock price surged from around \$1 at the start of 2012 to a high of \$7.73 in the summer of 2013.

- 5. Against this backdrop, the Company's Class Period annual reports and public statements assured investors that its injectable products satisfied all of the criteria of Section 361 and were not subject to FDA regulation.
- 6. On August 28, 2013 the FDA issued an "Untitled Letter" to MiMedx and its distributors stating that its key products did not meet the minimal manipulation criteria under Section 361 due to the "micronization process which alters the original, relevant characteristics of the structural tissue, relating to the tissue's utility for reconstruction, repair or replacement."
- 7. When news outlets reported that the FDA posted this "Untitled Letter" on its website the Company's stock dropped from \$6.06 per share to \$3.85 per share on September 4, 2013, on extraordinary volume.
- 8. The FDA's untitled letter resulted from a July 30, 2012-August 1, 2012 FDA "directed inspection" of MiMedx's manufacturing facilities in Kennesaw, GA. This "directed inspection" was specifically requested by the FDA

Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research to evaluate the status of MiMedx's amniotic membrane tissue products under Section 361. At the inspection, the FDA inspector specifically inquired into MidMedx's basis for the claimed Section 361 exemption from FDA approval. The FDA further put MiMedx on notice that it was scrutinizing its claim to a Section 361 exemption in a December 4, 2012 letter to Defendant Taylor which summarized the inspection. That letter further put Defendants on notice that the FDA might take action against MiMedx and prohibit any further sales of its amniotic membrane tissue products without MiMedx going through the time consuming and expensive process of obtaining FDA approval.

9. MiMedx continues to maintain that the products cited in the FDA's "Untitled Letter" meet the minimal manipulation criterion, and continues to market its products without FDA approval. However, the Company has been in talks with the FDA and has proposed to the FDA that it will open an Investigational New Drug ("IND") application, conduct clinical trials and file a Biologics License Application ("BLA"), and enter into negotiations with the FDA on a plan to transition its products to licensed biological products. MiMedx has admitted that if it cannot agree on a transition plan with the FDA it "may have to remove the micronized products from the market." *See* MiMedx Preliminary Prospectus

Supplement, December 19, 2013 filed with the SEC Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) at S-3-S-4, available at:

http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1376339/000119312513465846/d640968 d424b5.htm. As discussed below clinical development and filing a BLA is a very lengthy and very costly process, and once it is complete there is still no guarantee that the FDA will approve the product.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 10. Jurisdiction is conferred by §27 of the Exchange Act. The claims asserted herein arise under §§10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under 28 U.S.C. §1331 and §27 of the Exchange Act.
- 11. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to §27 of the Exchange Act and 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) as the Company conducts business in this district and its headquarters are located in this district. Defendants' public statements that are alleged to be false and misleading herein were transmitted into this District and relied upon by investors.
- 12. In connection with the acts alleged in this Complaint, defendants, directly or indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce,

including, but not limited to, the mails, interstate telephone communications and the facilities of the national securities markets.

#### **PARTIES**

- 13. Court appointed Lead Plaintiff Tim Kelly, as set forth in his PSLRA Certification previously filed with the Court and incorporated by reference herein, purchased the common stock of MiMedx during the Class Period and has been damaged thereby. Plaintiff Kelly is a citizen of Port Orchard Washington, Kitsap County, Washington.
- 14. Named Plaintiff and proposed class representative Alexina Brandford, as set forth in her PSLRA certification filed herewith and incorporated by reference herein, purchased the common stock of MiMedx during the Class Period and has been damaged thereby. Plaintiff Brandford is a citizen of Randallstown Maryland, Baltimore County, Maryland.
- 15. Named Plaintiff and proposed class representative Mark Canterna, as set forth in his PSLRA certification filed herewith and incorporated by reference herein, purchased the common stock of MiMedx during the Class Period and has been damaged thereby. Plaintiff Canterna is a citizen of Burlington, Kentucky, Boone County, Kentucky.

- 16. MiMedx is a Florida Corporation headquartered in Kennesaw, Georgia.
- 17. During the Class Period MiMedx's common stock was actively traded on the NASDAQ, under ticker MDXG.
- 18. Defendant MiMedx, together with its subsidiaries, operates as an integrated developer, manufacturer, and marketer of patent protected regenerative biomaterial products and allografts processed from human amniotic membranes. Its biomaterial platform technologies include HydroFix and CollaFix device technologies; and AmnioFix and EpiFix tissue technologies.
- 19. In January of 2011, MiMedx acquired Surgical Biologics, Inc. Thereafter, MiMedx began producing a number of treatments using amniotic tissue, which it says can treat chronic wounds. As of 2012, placenta-based products accounted for 95% of MiMedx's revenue.
- 20. Defendant Petit was and is the Company's Chairman of the Board and CEO at all relevant times. Petit joined MiMedx in 2009 as the Company's Chairman and CEO. Petit is currently being prosecuted by the SEC for insider trading in connection with the stock of a different company. *See SEC v. Arrowood and Petit*, 12-cv-00082.

- 21. Defendant Senken was and is the Company's CFO since January 2010.
- 22. Defendant Taylor was and is the Company's President and COO at all relevant times. Taylor has been the Company's President and COO since September 2009 and has been a Company director since October 2011.
- 23. Petit, Senken, and Taylor are referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants." MiMedx and the Individual Defendants are referred to herein, collectively, as "Defendants."
  - 24. Each of the Individual Defendants:
  - (a) directly participated in management of the Company;
  - (b) was directly involved in the day-to-day operations of the Company at the highest levels;
  - (c) was privy to confidential proprietary information concerning the Company and its business and operations;
  - (d) was involved in drafting, producing, reviewing and/or disseminating the false and misleading statements and information alleged herein;
  - (e) was aware of or recklessly disregarded the fact that false and misleading statements were being issued concerning the Company; and

- (f) approved or ratified these statements in violation of the federal securities laws.
- 25. As officers, directors and controlling persons of a publicly-held company whose common stock is and was registered with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act and was traded on the NASDAQ and governed by the provisions of the federal securities laws, the Individual Defendants each had a duty to disseminate accurate and truthful information promptly and to correct all previously issued statements that had become materially misleading or untrue to enable the market price of the Company's publicly-traded stock to reflect truthful and accurate information.
- 26. MiMedx is liable for the acts of the Individual Defendants and its employees under the doctrine of *respondeat superior* and common law principles of agency as all of the wrongful acts complained of herein were carried out within the scope of their employment with authorization.
- 27. The scienter of the Individual Defendants and other employees and agents of the Company is similarly imputed to MiMedx under the *respondeat* superior and agency principles.

#### SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

## A. MiMedx's Business

- 28. On January 5, 2011 MiMedx officially acquired Surgical Biologics, LLC ("Surgical Biologics") in an effort to expand its biomaterials product lines. *See* MiMedx Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 at 66, filed with the SEC on March 29, 2012. ("2011 10-K")
- 29. With the acquisition of Surgical Biologics, MiMedx acquired amniotic allograft tissue products. According to MiMedx's website, "this strategic acquisition brought together amnion tissue processing technology with MiMedx's experienced management team and extensive distribution network in order to position the company for market opportunities across multiple areas of medicine. Surgical Biologics developed allografts and other products processed from human amniotic membrane that can be used in a wide range of medical applications."
- 30. The acquisition of Surgical Biologics and its corresponding tissue products accounted for a substantial portion of MiMedx's stellar revenue growth. MiMedx's 2012 Annual Report filed on Form 10-K with the SEC states that "total revenue increased from approximately \$7,760,000 in 2011 to \$27,054,000 in 2012. The increase in revenue as compared with the prior year is due primarily to increased sales of our amniotic membrane tissue products EpiFix and AmnioFix."

See MiMedx Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 filed with the SEC on March 15, 2013 at 42 ("2012 10-K").

- MiMedx's primary products are AmnioFix ("AmnioFix") and EpiFix 31. MiMedx describes AmnioFix as "a composite amniotic tissue ("EpiFix"). membrane minimally manipulated to protect the collagen matrix and its natural properties. AmnioFix reduces scar tissue formation near or on the dura, reduces inflammation in the surgical site, enhances healing, and acts as a barrier to provide a dissection plane. Human amniotic membrane comprises the innermost layer of the placenta and lines the amniotic cavity." MiMedx makes AmnioFix in a wrap form and an injectable form ("AmnioFix Injectable"). MiMedx's "AmnioFix Injectable Product Overview" states that "AmnioFix Injectable...is supplied in a powder form so the benefits of the tissue may be delivered through an injection." Similarly, according to MiMedx's website EpiFix "is a human amniotic membrane allograft" also available to be mixed with saline to form and injectable or used as a dry powder.
- 32. MiMedx describes itself as "the global premier processor, marketer and distributor of human amniotic tissue."

33. MiMedx obtains this human amniotic tissue for use in its products, strictly through donations via its "Give the Gift of Healing" placenta donation program which "provides an opportunity for mothers delivering full-term Caesarean section births to donate their placenta for medical uses. The placenta is normally discarded as medical waste."

# **B. Regulatory Background**

- 34. In connection with Plaintiffs' investigation, Plaintiffs consulted with a regulatory expert, Nancy Chew. Nancy Chew has provided Plaintiffs with scientific and regulatory advice and guidance and an opinion as to MiMedx's Class Period statements. Nancy Chew is the president of Regulatory Affairs North America, Inc. In this capacity, she guides companies through the regulatory process for drugs and devices. She has been doing so for over thirty-five years. She has published journal articles, book chapters, and various magazine articles and columns on the regulatory approval process. Her resume is attached as Exhibit 1 to this Complaint.
- 35. In February 1997, the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") provided a regulatory framework for human tissues intended for transplantation,

and in 1998 the FDA's Tissue Regulatory Group began making recommendations about how tissue products, such as MiMedx's, would be regulated.

- 36. The FDA has specific regulations governing human cells, tissues and cellular and tissue products or "HCT/Ps." An HCT/P is a product containing or consisting of human cells or tissue intended for transplantation into a human patient. MiMedx's products are HCT/P's, as they are made from human tissue. HCT/P's are a special category of biological products and are not exempt from the stringent FDA review process for safety and effectiveness under a drug, device or biological product marketing application.
- 37. However, certain HCT/P's are not subject to the stringent FDA review process for safety and effectiveness under a drug, device or biological product marketing application. Such products are regulated under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act and are referred to as "361 HCT/P's". While 361 HCT/P's do not require FDA approval, the company that processes and sells the 361 HCT/P's is nevertheless required to register with the FDA, comply with FDA regulations regarding labeling, record keeping, donor eligibility and screening and testing, and to process the tissue in accordance with established Good Tissue Practices ("GTP") and report any adverse events.

- 38. To be considered a 361 HCT/P and thus be exempt from FDA approval, a product must meet four criteria, one of which is that the product must be "minimally manipulated.<sup>1</sup>"
- 39. In September of 2006, the FDA published a Guidance Document on minimally manipulated structural tissues. *See Guidance for Industry and FDA Staff: Minimal Manipulation of Structural Tissue Jurisdictional Update*, attached hereto as Exhibit 2 ("FDA Guidance Document").
- 40. FDA regulations define "minimal manipulation" for structural tissue as "processing that does not alter the original relevant characteristics of the tissue relating to the tissue's utility for reconstruction, repair, or replacement." 21 CFR 1271.3(f)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The additional criteria for classification as a 361 HCT/P are that the product must: be intended for homologous use only, as reflected in labeling, advertising, or other indications of the manufacturer's objective intent; not be combined with a drug or device, except for water, crystalloids, or a sterilizing, preserving, or storage agent, provided that the addition of the water, crystalloids, or sterilizing, preserving, or storage agent does not raise new clinical safety concerns with respect to the HCT/P; and not have a systemic effect and not be dependent on the metabolic activity of living cells for its primary function except if for autologous use, allogenic use in a first-degree or second-degree blood relative, or reproductive use. 21 CFR 1271.10(a). A product must meet all four of these criteria to be considered a 361 HCT/P.

- 41. Ms. Chew gives the following common sense example of taking a piece of tissue paper, which is used as a covering, and grinding it up into small microscopic pieces. The tissue paper would be altered because its tensile strength would be destroyed and its structural integrity as one continuous piece of paper would be changed. In the above example, the grinding up of the tissue paper cannot be defined as "minimal manipulation" because the processing (grinding) of the tissue paper alters its original relevant characteristics.
- 42. According to the FDA Guidance Document, a tissue characteristic is "original" if it is present in the tissue of the donor. A tissue characteristic is "relevant" if it could have a meaningful bearing on how the tissue performs when utilized for reconstruction, repair, or replacement.
- 43. Accordingly, the FDA's determination of whether the structural tissue is eligible for regulation solely as a 361 HCT/P encompasses a consideration of all of the potential effects, both positive and negative, of the alteration of a particular characteristic on the utility of the tissue for reconstruction, repair, or replacement. "Once the FDA has determined, based on the data and information before it, that processing has altered the original relevant characteristic of a structural tissue, and that the characteristic is relevant in that it has a potential effect on the utility of the

tissue for reconstruction, repair or replacement, the agency has considered the tissue to be more than minimally manipulated and not eligible for regulation solely under Section 361 of the PHS Act. In such a case the structural tissue will be regulated as a drug, device and/or biological product under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and/or section 351 of the PHS Act." FDA Guidance Document at 3, (emphasis added) – requiring that it be subject to the expensive and time consuming process of obtaining FDA approval.

- 44. The FDA Guidance Document sets forth the means by which a manufacturer or developer of a tissue based product can ascertain whether such HCT/P product will be regulated solely under Section 361: by contacting the Office of Cellular, Tissue and Gene Therapies Tissue Reference Group for an *initial determination*. A manufacturer or distributor may also seek a formal determination of the classification or assignment of a particular product through the *Request for Designation* ("RFD") process. *Id*.
- 45. Despite claiming that their AmnioFix and EpiFix products were regulated solely as 361 HCT/P's, MiMedx never sought an initial determination from the FDA as to whether their products qualified as 361 HCT/P's. MiMedx also never sought a formal determination through the RFD process.

The FDA's Tissue Reference Group ("TRG"), which was established 46. fourteen years ago specifically so companies developing structural tissue products like MiMedx could receive opinions on how their products should be categorized prior to their commercial sale, made the following public recommendation in "Allogeneic decellularized dehydrated amniotic membrane September 2006: advertised for improved wound healing of venous ulcers on the leg in conjunction with compression therapy is considered to be a biological product subject to investigational new drug applications (INDs) and biologic license applications (BLAs) because processing would have a meaningful bearing on how the tissue performs thereby altering the original relevant characteristics of the HCT/P and constituting more than minimal manipulation." This is analogous to MiMedx's product- made from amniotic tissue and used for wound healing. This recommendation made it obvious to MiMedx that its products were *not* minimally manipulated and therefore did not qualify at 361 HCT/P's. Moreover, this further shows that other companies that market amniotic tissues take advantage of this FDA service and have been denied HCT/P status for their products. This is the likely reason that MiMedx did not take advantage of this FDA service: it did not want the production and sale of its primary revenue producing products to get shut down before it had a chance to expand its revenue base and build market share. MiMedx knew that if its production and distribution of AmnioFix and EpiFix were shut down it would be forced to undergo the tremendous expense of completing a Biologics License Application, which would have frozen its stock market promotion scheme in its tracks.

47. According to a regulatory consultant interviewed by Plaintiff's investigator familiar with MiMedx's situation, MiMedx will likely have to expend at least \$10 million to complete a Biologics License Application (BLA) for its products alone, and such a process would take approximately 4-5 years. In addition, clinical development for a product usually requires the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars.

## C. The FDA's Establishment Inspection Report of Surgical Biologics

48. From July 30, 2012 to August 1, 2012 an FDA investigator from the FDA's Atlanta District Office conducted an inspection of MiMedx's Surgical Biologics unit in Kennesaw, Georgia (the "2012 Inspection"). On December 4, 2012, the FDA's Atlanta District Office sent a copy of the establishment inspection report or ("EIR") for the 2012 Inspection to MiMedx's CEO Bill Taylor. The 2012

Inspection was conducted by FDA investigator Kimberly Delk-Brooks. A copy of the EIR is attached to this Complaint as Exhibit 3.

- 49. The EIR states that the 2012 Inspection of Surgical Biologics was a "directed inspection." Such an inspection is conducted to gather information, which the FDA inspector then sends to the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research ("CBER") which analyzes the information collected and then makes a determination based upon the information collected and the interview conducted. The CBER consists of individuals who actually regulate tissues and cells, whereas the FDA inspector gathers information and conducts an interview of management and/or employees at a given facility to provide CBER with information.
- 50. The FDA's inspection of MiMedx previous to the 2012 Inspection was conducted in 2011, shortly after Mimedx acquired Surgical Biologics, Inc. and prior to the release of MiMedx's AmnioFix and EpiFix products on the market. *See* EIR at page 1 ("The previous inspection of this Human Cells, Tissues, and Cellular Tissue-Based Products HCT/Ps's firm was an initial inspection conducted on 2/28-3/1/11") and page 2 ("There have been several changes to the firm's operations since the previous inspection. The firm launched their Amniofix

injectable product (as well as 3 private label versions for distributors) approximately 3-4 months after the conclusion of the previous inspection").

- 51. The purpose of the 2012 Inspection was to determine the status of the Company's Amniofix Injectable product and to collect information to forward to CBER. CBER would then determine whether the Company was properly classifying its products. The 2012 Inspection was a "directed" inspection insofar as the FDA inspector was directed by CBER to conduct a specific inspection of AmnioFix and to collect information regarding the manufacture of the Company's AmnioFix product and then forward that information to CBER.
- 52. The EIR states that "Information regarding the firm's Amniofix Injectable product, which was rolled out approximately August 2011 was *collected* and forwarded to the CBER for review (emphasis added)." EIR at page 3. In collecting and forwarding information to CBER, the FDA investigator does not make any determination as to the status of a given product vis a vis whether it can properly be categorized as a Section 361 HCT/P. That determination is made at CBER by the TRG.
- 53. The EIR went on to describe MiMedx's products: "The firm manufactures a total of four injectable products made from amniotic membrane,

which undergo the same processing as all of their amniotic membrane, graft products. Once the membrane sheet has been dehydrated, it will undergo cryo milling in order to grind the membrane down into micronized pieces...." The EIR noted MiMedx's own characterization of its products: "The firm considers their processing technique to be minimal manipulation of tissue and results in no viable cells after processing." EIR at 3.

- 54. The EIR also noted that during the 2012 Inspection the inspector had a close out discussion meeting with management and that "an FDA 483 was not issued at the conclusion of the inspection." EIR at 5.
- 55. An FDA 483 is a form issued at the conclusion of an inspection which notifies the company's management of conditions in its manufacturing and quality systems that deviate from expected norms. An FDA 483 indicates whether "conditions or practices observed would indicate that any food, drug, device or cosmetic has been adulterated or is being prepared, packed, or held under conditions whereby it may become adulterated or rendered injurious to health. *See* "Form 483 Frequently Asked Questions" available at:

http://www.fda.gov/ICECI/EnforcementActions/ucm256377.htm. Accordingly, the issuance or non-issuance of an FDA 483 does *not* determine or opine on

whether a given product meets the criteria for classification or status as a 361 HCT/P.

- Defendants knew that the purpose of the 2012 Inspection was to collect information in order to determine the status of AmnioFix as a Section 361 HCT/P. This is so because when the FDA sends in an inspector into a given facility the FDA is required to communicate the purpose of its inspection. This serves the practical purpose of informing the facility manager to enable the facility manager to prepare the facility for inspection and alert employees who work there that an inspector will be conducting an inspection in their area.
- 57. Thus, as early as July 2012, Defendants were informed by the FDA inspector that CBER staff had requested a directed inspection concerning the status of AmnioFix as a qualified Section 361 HCT/P.
- 58. Indeed, shortly after the Company acquired Surgical Biologics and began marketing AmnioFix and EpiFix as 361 HCT/P's the Company's Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance left the Company. The timing of this departure would be consistent with an ethical impasse regarding how the Company claims that its products are 361 HCT/P's.

- 59. Defendants knew that the FDA had never looked at its AmnioFix and EpiFix products to determine the propriety of classifying those products as 361 HCT/P's, because at the time of the 2011 FDA inspection the products did not exist.
- 60. Defendants also knew that the FDA was questioning the propriety of the products' Section 361 status, specifically whether the products met the "minimal manipulation" criterion, because this is the only one of the four criteria set forth in Section 361 that is noted in the EIR.
- 61. Defendants had no reasonable basis for their assertion that it "considers their processing technique to be minimal manipulation" because Defendants never sought a determination from the TRG. Defendants also knew that the FDA was scrutinizing its products to determine whether they in fact met the criteria for Section 361 because Defendants knew that the express purpose of the 2012 Inspection was for the FDA inspector to collect additional data to provide CBER staff the information it needed to determine the applicability of Section 361 to its products.
- 62. Importantly, the EIR does *not* include a determination of whether MiMedx's products were properly classified as 361 HCT/P's; it merely

summarizes the purpose of the 2012 Inspection and what was done during the Inspection. The 2012 Inspection itself and the EIR, which confirms in writing that CBER was in the process of evaluating MiMedx's assertion that its products were 361 HCT/P's, were both red flags which put Defendants on notice of the fact that the FDA was seriously questioning MiMedx's claim that the products at issue were 361 HCT/P's.

### C. Defendants' Actionable Statements

63. The Class Period starts on March 29, 2012 when the Company filed with the SEC its annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 on Form 10-K ("2011 10-K"). The 2011 10-K was signed by Defendants Petit, Senken, and Taylor. The 2011 10-K falsely states that the Company's AmnioFix and EpiFix products do not require approval from the FDA because they are regulated solely under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act. The 2011 10-K states in relevant part:

#### Human Amniotic Tissue

Our EpiFix® and AmnioFix® products are derived from human tissue. The FDA has specific regulations governing human cells, tissues and cellular and tissue-based products, or HCT/Ps. An HCT/P is a product containing or consisting of human cells or tissue intended for transplantation into a human patient. HCT/Ps that meet the criteria for regulation solely under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (so-called "361 HCT/Ps") are not subject to

any premarket clearance or approval requirements and are subject to less stringent post-market regulatory requirements.
 To be a 361 HCT/P, a product generally must meet all four of the following criteria:
 It must be minimally manipulated;
 It must be intended for homologous use;
 Its manufacture does not involve combination with another article, except for water, crystalloids or a sterilizing, preserving or storage agent; and
 It does not have a systemic effect and is not dependent upon the metabolic activity of living cells for its primary function.

If an HCT/P meets all the above criteria, no FDA review for safety and effectiveness under a drug, device, or biological product marketing application is required. However, the processor of the tissue is required to register with the FDA, comply with regulations regarding labeling, record keeping, donor eligibility, screening and testing, process the tissue in accordance with established Good Tissue Practices, and report any adverse events. MiMedx continues to comply with all applicable regulations, as demonstrated by several FDA and other agency on-site audits.

64. The 2011 10-K underscored the importance of AmnioFix and EpiFix to MiMedx's business and reiterated that AmnioFix and EpiFix are 361 HCT/P's that are not more than "minimally manipulated":

Our core focus is on near-term opportunities for our EpiFix and AmnioFix platforms while continuing to advance our device technologies through the regulatory process. With the acquisition of Surgical Biologics we have

added technologies that do not require a 510K or PMA clearance as both the EpiFix and AmnioFix platforms are considered human tissue under Section 361 of the Public Health Services Act due to the fact that they are not more than minimally manipulated and are for homologous use only." (2011 10-K at 36).

- 65. On May 2, 2012 the Company issued a press release announcing its First Quarter 2012 results and reporting that revenue had increased over 250% and that the Company had achieved Positive Adjusted EBITDA for the first time in Company history as a result of sales of its newly introduced AmnioFix and EpiFix products. COO Bill Taylor stated "[d]uring the first quarter of the year we commenced the nationwide launch of AmnioFix Injectable, our newest tissue offering. AmnioFix Injectable is an allograft composed of micronized amniotic tissue...We continue to receive excellent reception and interest among physicians as we market our allografts from our two amniotic tissue technology platforms, AmnioFix and EpiFix." The press release reiterated that the Company's AmnioFix and EpiFix products were minimally manipulated: "Our tissue technologies, processed from the human amniotic membrane, utilize our proprietary Purion® process that was developed by our wholly-owned subsidiary, Surgical Biologics, to produce a safe, effective and minimally manipulated implant for homologous use."
  - 66. On July 26, 2012, the Company issued a press release announcing its

financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2012. For the quarter, the Company reported net loss of \$744,069, or (\$0.01) diluted EPS and net sales of \$4,884,256, compared to net loss of \$2,503,505 or (\$0.03) diluted EPS and net sales of \$1,929,399 for the same period in the year prior.

- 67. The Company's quarterly report for the period ended June 30, 2012 (second quarter) Form 10-Q filed with the SEC stated that "The increase in revenue as compared to the prior year is due primarily to increased sales of our amniotic membrane tissue products, EpiFix and AmnioFix. The 10-Q reiterated that AmnioFix and EpiFix were minimally manipulated: "Our biomaterial platform technologies include the device technologies HydroFix® and CollaFix™, and our tissue technologies, AmnioFix® and EpiFix®. Our tissue technologies, processed from the human amniotic membrane, utilize our proprietary Purion® process that was developed by our wholly-owned subsidiary, Surgical Biologics, to produce a safe, effective and *minimally manipulated* implant. (emphasis added).
- 68. The Company's quarterly report for the third quarter, issued on August 14, 2012 (Third Quarter 10-Q) similarly reported increased revenues over the prior year and quarter.
  - 69. On October 29, 2012 the Company issued a press release announcing

its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2012. The press release highlighted the fact that revenue increased by more than 3.5 times over third quarter revenue for 2011, that quarter over quarter revenue increased by 63% and that gross margins hit a record level of 83%. Defendant Petit stated that "Up to this point our AmnioFix tissue grafts had provided the majority of our revenue; however we now expect sales of our EpiFix tissue grafts to show accelerated growth, especially in wound care." The press release again reiterated in is description of MiMedx that AmnioFix and EpiFix were minimally manipulated: "We process human amniotic membrane utilizing our proprietary Purion Process to produce a safe, effective and *minimally manipulated* implant for homologous use." (emphasis added).

70. On March 15, 2013 Company filed with the SEC its annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 on Form 10-K ("2012 10-K"). The 2012 10-K was signed by Defendants Petit, Senken, and Taylor. The 2012 10-K, like the 2011 10-K, falsely stated that the Company's AmnioFix and EpiFix products do not require approval from the FDA because of an exemption under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act and again falsely stated that AmnioFix and EpiFix were "minimally manipulated."

- 71. Similar statements were repeated in the Company's quarterly report for the second quarter ended June 30, 2013 filed with the SEC on August 8, 2013 on Form 10-Q. The 10-Q was signed by Defendant Senken.
- The above statements were materially false and misleading because 72. they misrepresented and failed to disclose the fact that the Company was in violation of the Public Health Service Act because its AmnioFix and EpiFix products required FDA approval as they did not meet the "minimal manipulation" criterion for exemption under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act. Additionally, the Company's Third Quarter 2012 10-Q and all subsequent statements were false and misleading for the additional reason that they failed to disclose the 2012 Inspection and that the FDA was scrutinizing whether MiMedx's products were indeed 361 HCT/P's and the corresponding risk that further action by the FDA would be taken. Once MiMedx became aware that the FDA was scrutinizing whether its products were 361 HCT/P's MiMedx had a duty to correct its unqualified statements issued prior to August 1, 2012, that assured investors that AmnioFix and EpiFix were "minimally manipulated" and were 361 HCT/P's. MidMedx's above statements issued after August 1, 2012, were false and misleading because Defendants had actual notice that the FDA was questioning the

propriety of their products' Section 361 status, specifically whether the products met the "minimal manipulation" criterion. At a bare minimum, Defendants should have simultaneously disclosed to investors that CBER was closely scrutinizing the Section 361 status of AmnioFix and whether the products met the "minimal manipulation" criteria, when it asserted the products qualified for Section 361 status. As a result of the foregoing, the Company's statements were false and misleading at all relevant times.

- 73. On August 28, 2013, the FDA issued an "Untitled Letter" ("FDA Untitled Letter") to MiMedx and several of its distributors stating that MiMedx's AmnioFix and EpiFix Injectable products, *inter alia*, did not, as MiMedx claimed, meet all of the requirements of Section 361 of the Public Health Services Act and were therefore not subject to the Section 361 exemption and were indeed drugs and biologics products as defined under the FDCA and Public Health Services Act, respectively. The FDA's Untitled Letter specifically noted that the products at issue did not meet the "minimal manipulation" criterion because the tissues used to manufacture the products at issue are put through the "micronization" process (i.e. are pulverized or ground up) which alters the tissue's original characteristics.
  - 74. The FDA Untitled Letter" was the culmination of its 2012 Inspection

and EIR and should have come as no surprise to Defendants.

75. On September 4, 2013 news outlets reported that the FDA had posted this letter on its website asserting that MiMedx violated the Public Health Service Act because its products required FDA approval. The FDA Untitled Letter states:

August 28, 2013

FACSIMILE & UPS EXPRESS MAIL

Bill Taylor, President and CEO Surgical Biologics, a MiMedx Group Company 60 Chastain Center Blvd NW Kennesaw, GA 30144

Dear Mr. Taylor:

During a Current Good Tissue Practice (CGTP) inspection of your firm, Surgical Biologics, a MiMedx Group Company, located at 60 Chastain Center Blvd. NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144, from July 30, 2012 to August 1, 2012, investigators from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) collected information on the manufacture of a number of amniotic/chorionic-based products. This information was provided to the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) for review.

You are currently registered with the FDA to recover, screen, package, process, store, label and distribute these products. You distribute some of these products directly as a MiMedx Group Company and act as a contract manufacturer for the other products. The FDA is contacting these other distributors under separate cover. These products include: AmnioFix TM Injectable, AccelShield Injectable (Accel Spine), ---(b)(4)-------, and EpiFix TM Injectable, all of which are intended for use, among other things, in reducing inflammation and scar tissue formation, as

well as for enhancing wound healing of soft tissues.

These micronized amniotic/chorionic-based products are manufactured by ----(b)(4)----- dehydrated composite amnion and chorion tissue, and then having the end user resuspend them in normal saline for injection into soft tissues. Injectable amniotic/chorionic-based products are human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products (HCT/Ps) as defined in 21 CFR 1271.3(d). However, these products are HCT/Ps that do not meet all of the criteria in 21 CFR 1271.10(a) and therefore are not regulated solely under section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS Act) and the regulations in 21 CFR Part 1271. Specifically, the products do not meet the minimal manipulation criterion set forth in 21 CFR 1271.3(f)(1) due to the micronization process which alters the original relevant characteristics of the structural tissue, relating to the tissue's utility for reconstruction, repair or replacement. As a result, your HCT/Ps are drugs as defined under section 201(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) [21 U.S.C. 321(g)] and biological products as defined in section 351(i) of the PHS Act [42 U.S.C. 262(i)].

Please be advised that in order to lawfully market a drug that is also a biological product, a valid biologics license must be in effect [42 U.S.C. 262(a)]. Such licenses are issued only after a showing of safety and efficacy for the product's intended use. While in the development stage, such products may be distributed for clinical use in humans only if the sponsor has an investigational new drug (IND) application in effect as specified by FDA regulations [21 U.S.C. 355(i); 42 U.S.C. 262(a)(3); 21 CFR Part 312]. None of the amniotic/chorionic-based products described in this letter are the subject of an approved biologics license application (BLA), nor are there INDs in effect for any of these products. Based on this information, we have determined that your actions have violated the Act and the PHS Act.

This letter is not intended to be an all-inclusive review of the products that your firm markets. It is your responsibility to ensure that all products marketed by your firm are in compliance with the Act and the PHS Act and their implementing regulations.

We request that you notify this office, in writing, of the steps you have taken or will take to address the violations noted above and to prevent their recurrence. Your response should be sent to me at the following address: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, HFM-600, 1401 Rockville Pike, Suite 200 N, Rockville Maryland 20852-1448.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact Dr. Jessica Kostick at (301) 827-6201. Please be advised that only written communications are considered official.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Malarkey Director Office of Compliance and Biologics Quality Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research

(emphasis added)

- 76. On September 4, 2013, this adverse information caused the Company's stock to fall 36% from \$6.06/share to \$3.85/share on extraordinary volume.
- 77. MiMedx continues to market the products referenced in the FDA Untitled Letter without a biologics license. On December 4, 2013 the Company issued a press release which stated that "through a series of communications with the FDA, the FDA explained to the Company the basis for its position regarding

the micronized products...The Company responded that while it does not agree with the Agency's position, it understands the Agency's interest in further regulating this emerging technology. Accordingly, the Company has proposed to the FDA that it will pursue the Investigational New Drug ("IND") and Biologics License Application ("BLA") process for certain micronized products, and, in parallel, also proposed to enter into negotiations with the FDA on a plan to transition the micronized products to licensed biological products and continue to market the products under specific conditions...If the Company and the FDA are not able to agree on a transition plan, the Company may have to remove the micronized products from the market or limit its marketing of the micronized products in some way, although it may also be able to continue to market them." (See December 14, 2012 Press Release: "MiMedx provides update on continuing discussions with FDA").

78. Deceitfully, Defendants publicly claimed to be surprised by the FDA Untitled Letter. In a September 5, 2013 conference call Defendant Taylor revealed that the FDA conducted a directed inspection (the 2012 Inspection) the purpose of which was to determine the status of AmnioFix as a purported 361 HCT/P. Taylor goes on to state: "The inspection report indicates the information

regarding the company's AmnioFix Injectable Product which was rolled out in August 2011 was collected and forwarded to CBER, which is the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research for review. The information collected included our advertising, packaging, processing procedures and studies conducted related to the product. Following that inspection the inspector advised us that CBER had completed its review would not be issuing a Form 483 and had no items for discussion, no non-compliance items. And therefore the inspection was classified as NAI or No Action Indicated. The formal establishment inspection report confirming the NAI conclusion then was issued on December 4, 2012. We've posted this letter on our website for review.<sup>2</sup>" Taylor completely misrepresents to investors, who are unaware of the inner-workings of the regulatory process, that the fact that a Form 483 was issued and no action was indicated in no way means that the FDA inspector or CBER had approved or had drawn any conclusion as to whether MiMedx was appropriately classifying its products as 361 HCT/P's. As discussed in Paragraph 53 above, a Form 483 goes only to quality control type

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See MiMedx September 5, 2013 conference call transcript ("MiMedx Group's Management Discusses FDA Untitled Letter and Reiterate Guidance," Sept. 5, 2013, 5:47:04 PM, available at http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/call-transcript.aspx?StoryId=1676792&Title=mimedx-group-s-management-discusses-fda-untitled-letter-and-reiterate-guidance-transcript-

issues, *not* classification issues. Furthermore, the EIR does *not* confirm that the "CBER had completed its review." To the contrary, the information gathered in the 2012 Inspection Taylor refers to was forwarded to CBER, who clearly made the determination that MiMedx's products were not 361 HCT/P's as articulated in the "Untitled Letter."

- 79. Taylor goes on to state in the conference call that "[w]e of course believe that if there was an issue with the micronized product it would have been raised at that time." Defendants are again lying to investors because they knew full well that the 2012 Inspection was conducted to gather data not to make a conclusion-, in the same way that turning over documents to the IRS for an audit means that the audit is pending, not that a determination has been made.
- 80. On January 6, 2014, at a presentation at the JPMorgan Healthcare Conference, CEO Petit stated that "it's clear that the FDA is taking a new position where they want to regulate this micronized amnion differently than what they have in the past.<sup>3</sup>" It is patently false for the Company to suggest that the FDA is taking a "new position," as the FDA has never taken *any* position on how it has

<sup>3</sup> *See* MiMedx Group's CEO Presents at JPMorgan Healthcare Conference, January 6, 2014, transcript available at: http://www.nasdaq.com/aspx/call-transcript.aspx?StoryId=1950701&Title=mimedx-group-s-ceo-presents-at-jpmorgan-healthcare-conference-transcript-

regulated micronized amnion. This statement is yet another attempt by MiMedx to whitewash the fact that it knowingly manufactured and marketed, and *continues* to manufacture and market products that do not meet the criteria for exemption from classification as biologics under Section 361.

### D. Additional Facts Probative of Scienter

- 81. The intense premarket scrutiny associated with a product that is considered a drug or biologic because it does not satisfy all of Section 361's requirements can include over a decade of expensive research, with no guarantees that the drug will ever be approved.
- 82. While MiMedx claims to screen its tissue-based products for diseases and put them through a purification process, tissue based products that are more than minimally manipulated can pose safety concerns. London based FDA regulatory consultant Christopher Bravery stated, with respect to the "minimal manipulation" category that "the concern is product safety risks could arise when a tissue's properties are altered too much." *See MiMedx*, Sara Germano, Sept. 11, 2012, Wall Street Journal. Defendant Petit dismissed this concern stating that "'Mother Nature did the safety and efficacy trials on this tissue long ago." *Id*.

- 83. Neither Defendant Petit nor the other members of MiMedx Board of Directors has any background in medicine or biology, not to mention biologics or tissue-based products such as AmnioFix and EpiFix, and are not qualified to opine on whether AmnioFix and EpiFix products meet the "minimal manipulation" criterion of Section 361.
- 84. According to MiMedx's website, Randall Spencer is the Vice President of Clinical Innovation at MiMedx and has extensive experience with tissue regulation. Mr. Spencer has been in the bioimplant industry since its infancy, with over 23 years of experience. Mr. Spencer "made significant contributions to the development of a wide range of products which are now considered the standard of care for certain surgical procedures." Spencer is also the co-founder of Surgical Biologics, (which was founded in 2006). According to MiMedx's website, Spencer "has been a pioneer in the development of the latest advances in processing amniotic membrane tissue." When MiMedx acquired Surgical Biologics in 2011 Mr. Spencer served as the Director of Product Development until March 2013 when he assumed his current role of Vice President of Clinical Innovation.

- 85. According to MiMedx's website, Frank Burrows, Vice President of Corporate Strategy at MiMedx, joined MiMedx in 2011. He joined the Company in April 2011 as Vice President of Wound Care and led the marketing of the Company's wound care offerings. He has a long track record of working in the FDA-regulated industry and is experienced with tissue-based products. He became Vice President of Global Marketing in August 2011 and focused on expanding the Company's presence in the regenerative tissue market.
- 86. Based on their experience and backgrounds Messrs. Spencer and Burrows would have known that MiMedx's method of manufacturing AmnioFix and EpiFix, which consisted of chopping the tissue membrane into little pieces, would have rendered the tissue no longer minimally manipulated and thus not subject to regulations solely as a Section 361 HCT/P's.
- 87. Ms. Chew believes that this should be common knowledge by anyone familiar with this type of tissue processing, (i.e. micronization) that the micronization process by definition renders a product more than "minimally manipulated."
- 88. Defendants' statements that AmnioFix and EpiFix qualified as Section 361 HCT/P's were knowingly false because Defendants' either knew that they

were false or knew that they were made without a reasonable basis. Defendants knew that they were under scrutiny by the FDA with respect to their classification of their products as 361 HCT/P's as of the Inspection in July 2012, yet they failed to inform investors of the risks associated with the 2012 Inspection (i.e. that the FDA might disagree with their classification).

- 89. As Ms. Chew points out, common sense suggests that pulverizing a tissue significantly "alters the original relevant characteristics of the tissue."
- 90. After issuing the FDA Untitled Letter the FDA further explained that MiMedx's micronized products were more than minimally manipulated because "[c]ryo-milling cut, dehydrated amniotic/chorionic membrane results in a micron-sized powder and the loss of the tensile strength and elasticity that are essential characteristics of the original amniotic/chorionic tissue relating to its utility to function as a physical membrane (i.e. covering, barrier)."
- 91. When a product is ground up or put through "cryo-milling" it is no longer a cell, it is a mixture of proteins or ground up tissue. According to the aforementioned Britain-based regulatory consultant interviewed by Plaintiff's investigator, a regulatory professional with experience in biologics should have been able to easily conclude that the micronized tissues would be regulated as a

biologic (and not a Section 361 HCT/P) and therefore require clinical trials under IND, and a BLA before marketing. The consultant further stated that a life sciences lawyer should have been able to reach this conclusion and if doubt existed the Company could have and should have requested advice and a determination (classification) from the FDA for free.

92. In short, it was obvious to Defendants that MiMedx's products did not qualify under Section 361 HCT/P and that Defendants were required to obtain FDA approval of their products prior to their sale.

### **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

- 93. Plaintiffs bring this action as a class action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) on behalf of a class consisting of all purchasers of the securities of MiMedx during the Class Period (the "Class"). Excluded from the Class are Defendants and their families, the officers and directors of the Company, at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors or assigns and any entity in which defendants have or had a controlling interest.
- 94. The members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. Throughout the Class Period, MiMedx common stock

and other publicly traded securities were actively traded on the NASDAQ. While the exact number of Class members is unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff believes that there are hundreds or thousands of members in the proposed Class. Record owners and other members of the Class may be identified from records maintained by MiMedx or its transfer agent and may be notified of the pendency of this action by mail, using the form of notice similar to that customarily used in securities class actions.

- 95. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class as all members of the Class are similarly affected by Defendants' wrongful conduct in violation of federal law that is complained of herein.
- 96. Plaintifsf will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of the Class and has retained counsel competent and experienced in class and securities litigation.
- 97. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class and predominate over any questions solely affecting individual members of the Class. Among the questions of law and fact common to the Class are:
- (a) whether the Exchange Act was violated by Defendants as alleged herein;

- (b) whether statements made by Defendants misrepresented material facts about the business, operations and management of MiMedx; and
- (c) to what extent the members of the Class have sustained damages and the proper measure of damages.
- 98. A class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy since joinder of all members is impracticable. Furthermore, as the damages suffered by individual Class members may be relatively small, the expense and burden of individual litigation make it impossible for members of the Class to individually redress the wrongs done to them. There will be no difficulty in the management of this action as a class action.

# APPLICATION OF PRESUMPTION OF RELIANCE: FRAUD ON THE MARKET

- 99. The market for MiMedx's shares was open, well-developed and efficient at all times during the Class Period permitting Plaintiffs a presumption of reliance on the integrity of the market for MiMedx's stock.
- 100. Defendants made public misrepresentations or failed to disclose material facts during the Class Period;
  - (a) The omissions and misrepresentations were material;
  - (b) The Company's stock traded in an efficient market;

- (c) The misrepresentations alleged would tend to induce a reasonable investor to misjudge the value of the Company's stock; and
- (d) Plaintiffs and other members of the Class purchased MiMedx common stock between the time defendants misrepresented or failed to disclose material facts and the time the true facts were disclosed, without knowledge of the misrepresented or omitted facts.
- 101. The market for MiMedx's securities was an efficient market during the Class Period for the following reasons among others:
  - (a) MiMedx's stock met the requirements for listing, and was listed and actively traded on the NASDAQ, a highly efficient automated market;
  - (b) As a regulated issuer, MiMedx filed periodic public reports with the SEC, and/or NASDAQ;
  - (c) MiMedx regularly communicated with investors via established market communication mechanisms, including through regular dissemination of press releases on the national circuits of major news wire services and through other wide-ranging public disclosures such as communications with

the financial press and other similar reporting services;

- (d) MiMedx was followed by securities analysts including Northland Securities, Lake Street Capital Markets, Ascend Capital and Cannacord Genuity and other brokerage and research firms who wrote research reports about the Company, and these reports were distributed widely;
- (e) MiMedx met the requirements to and did file an S-3 registration statement during the Class Period;
- (f) According to MiMedx's Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on August 14, 2012 there were 83,063,139 shares of MiMedx common stock outstanding as of July 31, 2012;
- (g) On average, approximately 1.71 million shares of MiMedx's stock were traded on a weekly basis during the Class Period. Thus, approximately 2.06% of MiMedx's 83,063,139 outstanding shares of common stock were traded on a weekly basis during the Class Period;
- (h) Unexpected material public news concerning MiMedx was rapidly reflected in MiMedx's share price.

102. As a result of the foregoing, the market for MiMedx's securities promptly digested current information regarding MiMedx from all publicly available sources and reflected such information in MiMedx's stock price.

### **COUNT I**

# For Violations of §10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Against All Defendants

- 103. Plaintiffs incorporate the above allegations as if fully set forth herein.
- 104. During the Class Period, Defendants disseminated or approved the false statements specified above, which they knew or deliberately disregarded were misleading in that they contained misrepresentations and failed to disclose material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- 105. Defendants violated §10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 in that they: (a) employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud; (b) made untrue statements of material facts or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or (c) engaged in acts, practices and a course of business that operated as a fraud or deceit upon Plaintiff and others similarly situated in

connection with their purchases of MiMedx common stock during the Class Period.

106. Plaintiffs and the Class have suffered damages in that, in reliance on the integrity of the market, they paid artificially inflated prices for MiMedx common stock. Plaintiffs and the Class would not have purchased MiMedx common stock at the prices they paid, or at all, if they had been aware that the market prices had been artificially and falsely inflated by Defendants' misleading statements.

### **COUNT II**

# For Violations of §20(a) of the Exchange Act Against All Defendants

- 107. Plaintiffs incorporate the above allegations as if fully set forth herein.
- 108. The Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of MiMedx within the meaning of §20(a) of the Exchange Act. By reason of their positions with the Company, and their ownership of MiMedx stock, the Individual Defendants had the power and authority to cause MiMedx to engage in the wrongful conduct complained of herein. MiMedx controlled the Individual

Defendants and all of the Company's employees. By reason of such conduct, defendants are liable pursuant to §20(a) of the Exchange Act.

## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief and judgment, as follows:

- (a) Determining that this action is a proper class action, designating Plaintiffs as Lead Plaintiffs and certifying Plaintiffs as class representatives under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Rosen Law Firm as Lead Counsel and The Antonino Firm LLC as Liaison Counsel;
- (b) Awarding compensatory damages in favor of Plaintiffs and the other Class members against all Defendants, jointly and severally, for all damages sustained as a result of Defendants' wrongdoing, in an amount to be proven at trial, including interest thereon;
- (c) Awarding Plaintiffs and the Class their reasonable costs and expenses incurred in this action, including counsel fees and expert fees; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

# **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury.

Dated: April 15, 2015 Respectfully submitted,

## THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A.

s/ Sara Fuks, Esq.
Laurence M. Rosen, Esq.
Phillip Kim, Esq. (admitted *pro hac vice*)
Sara Fuks, Esq. (admitted *pro hac vice*)
275 Madison Avenue, 34<sup>th</sup> Floor
New York, NY 10016
Phone: (212) 686-1060
Fax: (212) 202-3827
pkim@rosenlegal.com
lrosen@rosenlegal.com

Lead Counsel for Plaintiffs

and

s/ Lauren S. Antonino, Esq. Ga. Bar No. 652408
The Antonino Firm LLC
Five Concourse Parkway
Suite 1425
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Tel: 770, 408, 1220

Tel: 770-408-1229 Fax: 866-372-5586

lauren@antoninofirm.com

Liaison Counsel for Plaintiffs

#### CERTIFICATION

The individual or institution listed below (the "Plaintiff") authorizes the Rosen Law Firm, P.A. to file an action or amend a current action under the federal securities laws to recover damages and to seek other relief against MiMedx Group, Inc. ("MDXG"), and certain of its officers and directors. The Rosen Law Firm, P.A. agrees to prosecute the action on a contingent fee basis not to exceed one-third of any recovery and will advance all costs and expenses. Any legal fees and expenses will be determined by, and payable, only upon order of the U.S. District Court.

Plaintiff declares, as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws, that:

- 1. I have reviewed the complaint against MDXG and certain of its officers and directors and I retain the Rosen Law Firm, P.A. as counsel in this action for all purposes.
- 2. I did not engage in transactions in the securities that are the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in this or any other litigation under the securities laws of the United States.
- 3. I am willing to serve as a lead plaintiff either individually or as part of a group. A lead plaintiff is a representative party who acts on behalf of other class members in directing the action, and whose duties may include testifying at deposition and trial.
- 4. The following is a list of all of the purchases and sales I have made in MDXG securities during the class period set forth in the complaint. I have made no transactions during the class period in the debt or equity securities that are the subject of this lawsuit except those set forth below.

Number of Shares Purchased	Date(s) Purchased	Price Paid Per Share	Date(s) Sold (if applicable)	Price Sold Per Share
or Sold	Turchuseu	T of Share	(if applicable)	1 of Share
199	July 31, 2013	\$6.68	September 4, 2013	\$2.00
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$

PLEASE FAX CERTIFICATION TO ROSEN LAW FIRM at (212) 202-3827 OR EMAIL TO <a href="mailto:info@rosenlegal.com">info@rosenlegal.com</a> OR SEND BY U.S. MAIL TO: THE ROSEN LAW FIRM PA 275 MADISON AVENUE, 34<sup>th</sup> FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10016

- 5. I have not, within the three years preceding the date of this certification, sought to serve or served as a representative party on behalf of a class in an action involving alleged violations of the federal securities laws, except: for the following company(ies):
- 6. I will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party beyond my pro rata share of any recovery, except reasonable costs and expenses, such as travel expenses and lost wages directly related to the class representation, as ordered or approved by the court pursuant to law.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 2 9th day of January, 2015.

0 4 1
Signature: Randford
First name: Alexina
Middle initial:
Last name: Brandford
Address:
City:
State:
Zip:
Country:
Facsimile:
Phone:
Email:

Item. 4 (continue from prior page if needed)

Number of	Date(s)	Price Paid	Date(s) Sold	Price Sold
Shares Purchased	Purchased	Per Share	(if applicable)	Per Share
or Sold	,			
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$

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\$	\$
\$	\$
\$	\$

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Plaintiff declares, as to the claims asserted under the federal securities laws, that:

- 1. I have reviewed the complaint against MDXG and certain of its officers and directors and I retain the Rosen Law Firm, P.A. as counsel in this action for all purposes.
- 2. I did not engage in transactions in the securities that are the subject of this action at the direction of plaintiff's counsel or in order to participate in this or any other litigation under the securities laws of the United States.
- 3. I am willing to serve as a lead plaintiff either individually or as part of a group. A lead plaintiff is a representative party who acts on behalf of other class members in directing the action, and whose duties may include testifying at deposition and trial.
- 4. The following is a list of all of the purchases and sales I have made in MDXG securities during the class period set forth in the complaint. I have made no transactions during the class period in the debt or equity securities that are the subject of this lawsuit except those set forth below.

Number of	Date(s)	Price Paid	Date(s) Sold	Price Sold
Shares Purchased or Sold	Purchased	Per Share	(if applicable)	Per Share
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
		\$		\$
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- 5. I have not, within the three years preceding the date of this certification, sought to serve or served as a representative party on behalf of a class in an action involving alleged violations of the federal securities laws, except: for the following company(ies):
- 6. I will not accept any payment for serving as a representative party beyond my pro rata share of any recovery, except reasonable costs and expenses, such as travel expenses and lost wages directly related to the class representation, as ordered or approved by the court pursuant to law.

I declare under penalty of	f perjury that the	foregoing is true	and correct.	Executed this	da	ay (	οf
, 2015.							

Mark & Conto

Signature:

First name: Mark
Middle initial: E
Last name: Canterna
Entity: Mark Canterna

Address: City: State: Zip:

Phone: Email:

Country:

Item. 4 (continue from prior page if needed)

Number of	Date(s)	Price Paid	Date(s) Sold	Price Sold
Shares Purchased	Purchased	Per Share	(if applicable)	Per Share
or Sold				
		\$		\$
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		\$		\$
		\$		\$

# **MIMEDX GROUP INC**

Mark Canterna							
Number of Shares	Date(s)	Price Paid	Date(s) Sold (if	Price Sold Per			
Purchased or Sold	Purchased	Per Share	applicable)	Share			
324.0000	5/14/2013	6.5900					
395.0000	5/16/2013	5.5900					
271.0000			2/19/2015	9.3479			